

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 07972 131815Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SP-02 PM-04
L-03 INR-07 INRE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 OMB-01 /050 W
-----131817Z 106355 /43

O P 131715Z MAY 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3875
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07972

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MARR PLOS NATO GR TU SZ CY US
SUBJECT: GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND AEGEAN ISSUE

REF: BERN 2133, ATHENS 4223

1. EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN AND EUR/SE DIRECTOR
HAD CONVERSATION MAY 11 IN LONDON WITH JOHN TSOUNIS
COVERING STATUS OF U.S.-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND
FORTHCOMING GREEK-TURKISH TALKS ON THE AEGEAN.

2. ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS, TSOUNIS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION
WITH PROGRESS MADE TO DATE IN ATHENS. FOREIGN OFFICE WAS
PLEASED THAT MAJORITY OF DIFFICULT ISSUES HAD NOW BEEN
RESOLVED. TSOUNIS SAID ALL THAT REMAINED WERE SERIES OF
FINANCIAL QUESTIONS AND IN THIS AREA GREEK GOVERNMENT HAD
POLITICAL REQUIREMENT THAT AGREEMENT LOOK AS MUCH LIKE
U.S.-TURKISH AGREEMENT AS POSSIBLE. IT WAS IN THIS CON-
TEXT THAT HE WONDERED WHETHER U.S. COULD PROVIDE LETTER
TO GREEKS COVERING POSSIBILITY OF EXIM CREDITS OVER NEXT
FOUR YEARS.

3. HARTMAN RECALLED PRESS STATEMENT HE HAD ISSUED IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 07972 131815Z

1976, AND AGREED TO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING
LETTER OF KIND GIVEN TO TURKS, WHICH WOULD SATISFY GREEK
NEEDS IN THIS AREA.

4. AT SAME TIME, HARTMAN DISMISSED ACCURACY OR IMPOR-
TANCE OF 86 MILLION DOLLAR FIGURE WHICH TURKS HAD USED IN
1976 TO DESCRIBE VALUE OF SUPPLEMENTARY EQUIPMENT THEY

WERE TO RECEIVE. SOME OF THIS EQUIPMENT WAS PROBABLY NO LONGER AVAILABLE. NO PRICE TAG HAD EVER BEEN ATTACHED BY THE U.S. TO ANY ITEM ON THE LIST. THUS, THIS WAS A WHOLLY MEANINGLESS FIGURE TO DISCUSS. IT WAS IN THIS PART OF CONVERSATION THAT TSOUNIS WAS REMINDED THAT IN SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE TURKS WERE PROMISED ACCESS TO U.S. DEFENSE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM. SAME OFFER HAD BEEN MADE TO, BUT REJECTED BY, GREECE DURING BASE NEGOTIATIONS LAST YEAR. TSOUNIS SAID HE WAS UNAWARE OF THIS FACT. TSOUNIS DID NOT REPEAT REQUEST HE HAD MADE IN ATHENS TO SHIFT SOME U.S. FUNDS FROM MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE, AND THE QUESTION WAS NOT RAISED BY DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

5. TSOUNIS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DENIAL BY GREEK GOVERNMENT THAT BASE NEGOTIATIONS WERE IN PROGRESS WAS SOMEWHAT SILLY, AND THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE FORMAL ROUND TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, TSOUNIS EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR HOLDING FINAL ROUND IN WASHINGTON IN NEAR FUTURE.

6. CONVERSATION CLOSED WITH BRIEF DISCUSSION OF GREEK-TURKISH AEGEAN NEGOTIATIONS. TSOUNIS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PROCEDURAL IMPASSE MAY HAVE BEEN BROKEN BY CAGLAYANGIL-BITSIOS CONVERSATION IN STRASBOURG LAST MONTH, AND THAT HE WOULD PROCEED TO PARIS FOR TALKS ON JUNE 1 CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC THAT SOME PROGRESS MIGHT BE MADE. TSOUNIS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT TURKS HAD NOT OBJECTED TO THE FOUR PRINCIPLES WHICH BITSIOS HAD OUTLINED ORALLY TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 07972 131815Z

CAGLAYANGIL, AND THAT GREEKS HAD ACCORDINGLY AGREED TO BACK OFF INSISTING ON PRIMACY OF LEGAL COMMITTEE TO WORK OF "POLITICAL EXPERTS." TWO GROUPS COULD NOW WORK IN TANDEM AND PASS IDEAS AND CONCLUSIONS BACK AND FORTH TO ONE ANOTHER.

SPIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS, CREDIT AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON07972
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770169-0693
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770562/aaaacbel.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4f733895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BERN 2133, 77 ATHENS 4223
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2538474
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND AEGEAN ISSUE
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PLOS, GR, TU, SZ, CY, US, NATO, XMB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f733895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009